

# Messiah Messenger

Caring for and serving others so all may share in God's love.

**June 2022  
Volume 60  
Issue 6**



## **Rides with "Gray Lady II" A Message from the Pastor**

What a Spring we have been having the past two months. Our state is covered with a screen of smoke from the devastating forest fires. When the Gila Forest fire was in its early stages, "Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and I were driving on the westside of Albuquerque, and we could not see the Manzano mountains and a good portion of the Sandias. This is a horrible time for people with breathing problems and those whose homes have been destroyed by the fires north of us.

As of this writing, the Calf Canyon/Hermit Peak combined fires has consumed the most acres in the history of recorded forest fires in New Mexico. The fire at Gila National Forest is the third largest. The latter fire did its damage in two weeks in relation to the writing of this letter. It is not under control yet. None of the three major fires, counting the fire by Los Alamos, are still not in check, but are slowing in their growth.

We have had a fire in the Bosque of Albuquerque the latter part of May. Both the east side of the river and the west side of the river were affected by the fire. My wife and I were sitting out back on our patio when this fire started. My wife asked about this new formation of smoke, not that far from our neighborhood. It was spooky how easily and quickly a fire can spark and expand. I guessed at its outset that it was a "woods" style fire and somewhere around Montano Road. By evening, we were getting alerts from Bernalillo County with evacuation information. It turned out that our area did not have to be concerned.

While "Gray Lady II" and I were driving around town listening to all the forest fire updates and the terrible situation for those who have been directly affected by the fires, a low mood overtook me. There are so many questions as a mere mortal for what we can do to make a difference. Yet, there are so many people with courage and gifts which are making a difference. Such a realization does lift my spirits. Those communities not affected directly, doing what they can do to house, feed and comfort both the evacuated people and their various pets and farm animals, as well as the fleeing wild animals, need to be prayed for and applauded. We as a people can really make a difference during a crisis.

Also, there are those wonderful professionals who put their lives on the line. There are a variety of on the ground fire fighters trying to stave off the flying embers movement to new areas. We cannot forget the different departments of public safety which have driven out to so many remote areas searching and assisting those caught in the fire's destructive movement. Even our own community has stepped up in a variety of ways. One special way has been to open up for the next few months some sites where people evacuating up north can come and set up a mobile living site.

"Gray Lady II" reminded me what she heard reported through her radio. There is a wonderful group of people who go around the world and help feed people working to help others. I am not sure, but they may provide food for those evacuating their homes. Sorry about not paying more attention, I was watching the traffic. What I did get from the story that the "World Central Kitchens" had set up six food sites. They cooked three

meals per day and provided other food for those fighting the fire to take with them as they battled the fire in the heat and wind.

We can really be a loving people when we are pressed into service for others. We can really make a difference striving shoulder to shoulder to make better a bad situation. We are mere mortals, yet I wholly believe as people of Christ's love, can make a difference. There is nothing good about the destructive elements possible in this world, but when we allow Christ's love to permeate our being by the power of the Holy Spirit, we can bring new life in the midst of that which looks to be destroyed. I pray for those actively fighting the present fire's destruction, whether they claim to be doing so in Christ's name or not. I believe that Christ is actively making a difference there. I pray earnestly that those of us who are of the faith that we will continue to be available for the Spirit to be about seeking ways to bring new life, hope and strength to all those who get affected by tragedy, now and into the future.

When Christ's stopped on His journey to the Cross to die for our sins and give us new life, He also brought that same grace to those He met who were suffering in some way. He healed the blind, lame, those with leprosy, and by doing so gave them new life. He showed those who were to follow Him a way to make a difference in the lives of those struggling. He freed people of many ailments and evil spirits. He did so not to merely show His ultimate power, but that He cared and could change the situation from a tragedy to new life.

The Lord's mercy and grace are active in our world through His followers and by the power of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord be praised. Also, may we say thank you, dear Lord. Amen.

May the Lord's peace be with you each and every day.  
Pastor Doug

# June Scripture 2022



<b><u>June 5<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>Acts 2:1-21</b> <b>Psalm 104:24-34, 35b</b> <b>Romans 8:14-17</b> <b>John 14:8-17 [25-27]</b>	<b><u>June 12<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31</b> <b>Psalm 8</b> <b>Romans 5:1-5</b> <b>John 16:12-15</b>
<b><u>June 19<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>Isaiah 65:1-9</b> <b>Psalm 22:19-28</b> <b>Galatians 3:23-29</b> <b>Luke 8:26-39</b>	<b><u>June 26<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21</b> <b>Psalm 16</b> <b>Galatians 5:1, 13-25</b> <b>Luke 9:51-62</b>

<p><b>Sunday Worship</b>  9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Onsite and Zoom)  Fellowship following service</p> <p><b>Weekday Bible Study</b> Wednesday at 9:30 am</p> <p><b>Council Meeting</b>  2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday this Month at 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>MLC Women</b>  2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month at 9:30 am</p> <p><b>Sew &amp; Share</b>  1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month</p> <p><b>Craft Class</b>  Up and running  Contact for meeting time</p> <p><b>Rising Sun Christian Community</b>  11:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p><b>Pastor Doug Mathison</b>  <a href="mailto:office@messiahbq.org">office@messiahbq.org</a></p> <p><b>Director of Music</b> Tony Carson  <a href="mailto:tony@messiahbq.org">tony@messiahbq.org</a></p> <p><b>Building &amp; Grounds</b> Carlo Bachechi</p> <p><b>Church Office</b>  <a href="mailto:office@messiahbq.org">office@messiahbq.org</a>  505-299-3311</p>	<p>Please keep in your prayers our family and friends who are in need of our prayers this month. Prayer requests can be made by contacting the church office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stephanie</li> <li>• Ceceilia Pepper</li> <li>• Irene Aldredge</li> <li>• Deanna Dahm</li> <li>• Carole Baker</li> <li>• Loring Emery</li> <li>• Marian Kulju</li> <li>• Helga Lindner</li> <li>• Jacen Hoyt</li> <li>• Dotty Dahl</li> <li>• Pat Baca &amp; Family</li> </ul> <p><b>Serving In the Military</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Braund</li> <li>• Daniel Vickers (Navy)</li> <li>• Micah Kesatie (Army Reserves)</li> </ul>
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# **For the Love of Our Neighborhood...**

## **June 2022 ~ EXCITING NEWS FOR OUR NEIGHBORS**

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN**

Monthly meetings of the MLCW began again this month on Saturday, January 8, 2022. Our next meeting will be **Saturday, June 11, 2022**. We will meet at 9:30 am in the Messiah Conference Room. The Bible study from the W-ELCA magazine "Gather" will be used.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**

The study meets every Wednesday morning at 9:30 am. We usually meet in the Conference Room at Messiah, unless we need to be at appropriately socially distanced. The study is traditionally a study of the upcoming Sunday's Gospel lesson and other designated lessons. You can bring your own Bible, otherwise, there will be handouts of the scripture made available to you.

### **KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL and TOMASITA GRADE SCHOOL NEWS**

We had nothing specifically going on with those two schools last month. We should get in contact with those schools for what they will need next school year.

### **2022 CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

President: Steve McHenry

Vice President: K.D. Pass

Secretary: Rebecca Hauge

Treasurer: Lee Danielson

Financial Secretary: Rosemary Butler

At Large:

Ron Kulju

Debra Hoyt

(The Church Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. We have been meeting in person at the church and on ZOOM.)

### **RISING SUN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**

They are meeting once again in our building (and with a digital format for those outside the building). They have been having fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall. They are working on getting a second camera up and running for their streaming service of their worship.

## **WORSHIP AT MESSIAH**

We are worshipping in the church building and doing ZOOM for those not in the building. We pray that this keeps us in touch with the Word of the Lord and each other. Sadly, our ZOOM experience has had its hiccups. Please understand that we are trying but it does not always perform as well as it could. We have also been emailing or mailing a weekly exposition of the weekly worship and lessons. We are having fellowship time following worship in the Fellowship Hall. Most of our eats are prepackaged, but some people bring in treats. Please pick and choose what works best for you and your health. Thank you to Brian and Cassandra Osterloh, KD Pass, Rosemary Butler, Debra Hoyt, Ron Kulju, Steve McHenry, Gene and Irene Aldredge, and Tony, for their extra assistance in making worship happen during this unusual time. We are having Holy Communion during the service with special directives for practicing social distancing and health concerns. We started using unleavened bread for the Sunday services, beginning April 24, 2022.

Thank you to Carol Hartenberger for making the first supply of bread. If others would like to make the bread, we have a recipe available for you.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES AT MESSIAH**

- 1) Sew and Share—They plan is to start again on **June 7, 2022**. They will meet of the first and third Tuesdays of each month. They will meet in the Conference Room, with some food and fellowship following. Come and have a great time putting together quilts and working with other members of the church. The next gathering will be June 21, 2022.
- 2) We are in need of volunteers to help our worship services: PowerPoint/ZOOM (run the system); Offering Counters (count, record and deposit the offering); Altar Guild, and other activities throughout the year. **We are looking for someone who would be willing to be the Treasurer next year** (This is a council position.). Lee, the present Treasurer, will work with someone over the summer and fall months to get familiar with the position.
- 3) Thank you to all who came on May 7 and helped with the cleanup around the church.

# June 2022 NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Council meetings** will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday this month at 6:30 p.m. (On Zoom)

**Messiah Lutheran Church Women  
Women Officers**

President: Rosemary Butler  
Secretary: Irene Aldredge  
Treasurer: Dotty Dahl

**Mission Lead Ladies**

Growth: Lorraine Davis  
Action: Charlotte Moritomo  
Community: Dotty Dahl  
Historian: TBD

Sew and Share is starting up this June and be held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 a.m.

- June 7<sup>th</sup>
- June 21<sup>st</sup>

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

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Website: <http://messiahabq.org>

**Volunteers Needed!!!**

- ZOOM and PowerPoint on Sundays
  - Offering Counters
  - Church Council Members
- Sign-up on the volunteer board at MLC.

## Treasurer Report April 2022

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$14,084.42	\$34,254.14
Expense	\$5,063.34	\$23,293.51
Net	\$9,021.08	\$10,960.63
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$105,635.69	114,498.96
MM	\$13,646.61	\$13,646.73

# June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1.</b>	<b>2.</b>	<b>3.</b>	<b>4.</b>
			9:30 am Bible Study			
<b>5.</b>	<b>6.</b>	<b>7.</b>	<b>8.</b>	<b>9.</b>	<b>10.</b>	<b>11.</b>
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew & Share	9:30 am Bible Study			9:30 am MLCW Bible Study
<b>12.</b>	<b>13.</b>	<b>14.</b>	<b>15.</b>	<b>16.</b>	<b>17.</b>	<b>18.</b>
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	9:30 am Bible Study			
<b>19.</b>	<b>20.</b>	<b>21.</b>	<b>22.</b>	<b>23.</b>	<b>24.</b>	<b>25.</b>
7:30 am Sunrise Service  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew & Share	9:30 am Bible Study			
<b>26.</b>	<b>27.</b>	<b>28.</b>	<b>29.</b>	<b>30.</b>		
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			